

Client's Docket No. BLT1487

**APPLICATION**

**FOR UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT**

-----

**SPECIFICATION**

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

BE IT KNOWN THAT I, **CHRISTOPHER A. BARNES**, a citizen of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have invented a new and useful **INCLINE-ADJUSTABLE AIR MATTRESS** of which the following is a specification:

## **INCLINE-ADJUSTABLE AIR MATTRESS**

5

### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

#### **Field of the Invention**

10       The present invention relates to incline air mattresses and more particularly pertains to a new incline-adjustable air mattress for elevating a user's head and legs relative to the user's torso.

#### **15      Description of the Prior Art**

         The use of incline air mattresses is known in the prior art. More specifically, incline air mattresses heretofore devised and utilized are known to consist basically of familiar, expected and obvious structural configurations, notwithstanding the myriad of designs encompassed by the crowded prior art which have been 20     developed for the fulfillment of countless objectives and requirements.

25       Known prior art includes U.S. Patent No. 5,170,522; U.S. Patent No. 5,577,278; U.S. Patent No. 4,639,960; U.S. Patent No. 5,311,625; U.S. Patent No. 5,345,630; and U.S. Patent No. Des. 359,189.

While these devices fulfill their respective, particular objectives and requirements, the aforementioned patents do not disclose a new incline-adjustable air mattress. The prior art includes air mattresses having air chambers but not to the extent of  
5 the present invention.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The general purpose of the present invention, which will be  
10 described subsequently in greater detail, is to provide a new incline-adjustable air mattress which has many of the advantages of the incline air mattresses mentioned heretofore and many novel features that result in a new incline-adjustable air mattress which is not anticipated, rendered obvious, suggested, or even implied by  
15 any of the prior art incline air mattresses, either alone or in any combination thereof. The present invention includes a base section having top, bottom and perimeter walls, and also having air valve members being disposed in the perimeter wall, and further having an air chamber disposed between the top, bottom, and perimeter  
20 walls; and also includes intermediate sections being disposed upon and connected to the base section; and further includes upper sections being disposed upon and connected to the intermediate sections. None of the prior art includes the combination of the elements of the present invention.  
25

There has thus been outlined, rather broadly, the more important features of the incline-adjustable air mattress in order that the detailed description thereof that follows may be better understood, and in order that the present contribution to the art may  
30 be better appreciated. There are additional features of the

invention that will be described hereinafter and which will form the subject matter of the claims appended hereto.

In this respect, before explaining at least one embodiment of  
5 the invention in detail, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited in its application to the details of construction and to the arrangements of the components set forth in the following description or illustrated in the drawings. The invention is capable of other embodiments and of being practiced and carried out in  
10 various ways. Also, it is to be understood that the phraseology and terminology employed herein are for the purpose of description and should not be regarded as limiting.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a new  
15 incline-adjustable air mattress which has many of the advantages of the incline air mattresses mentioned heretofore and many novel features that result in a new incline-adjustable air mattress which is not anticipated, rendered obvious, suggested, or even implied by any of the prior art incline air mattresses, either alone or in any  
20 combination thereof.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a new incline-adjustable air mattress for elevating a user's head and legs relative to the user's torso.

25 Still yet another object of the present invention is to provide a new incline-adjustable air mattress that is easy and convenient to set up and use.

30 Even still another object of the present invention is to provide a new incline-adjustable air mattress that reduces the

incidence of gastro-esophagus influx, respiratory conditions, and pain and discomfort following surgery or injury.

These together with other objects of the invention, along with 5 the various features of novelty which characterize the invention, are pointed out with particularity in the claims annexed to and forming a part of this disclosure. For a better understanding of the invention, its operating advantages and the specific objects attained by its uses, reference should be made to the accompanying drawings 10 and descriptive matter in which there are illustrated preferred embodiments of the invention.

#### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

15 The invention will be better understood and objects other than those set forth above will become apparent when consideration is given to the following detailed description thereof. Such description makes reference to the annexed drawings wherein:

20 Figure 1 is a perspective view of a new incline-adjustable air mattress according to the present invention and being deflated.

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of the present invention being inflated.

25

#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT**

With reference now to the drawings, and in particular to Figures 1 through 2 thereof, a new incline-adjustable air mattress 30 embodying the principles and concepts of the present invention and generally designated by the reference numeral 10 will be described.

As best illustrated in Figures 1 through 2, the incline-adjustable air mattress 10 generally comprises a base section 11 having top, bottom and perimeter walls 12-14, and also having air valve members 15 being conventionally disposed in the perimeter wall 14, and further having an air chamber 16 being disposed between the top, bottom, and perimeter walls 12-14. The perimeter wall of the base section is generally an endless strip being disposed along edges of the top and bottom walls and has a width which is generally uniform throughout.

Intermediate sections 17,18 are disposed upon and securely connected to the base section 11, and include a head intermediate section 17 being disposed upon a front portion of the base section 11, and also includes a foot intermediate section 18 being disposed upon a rear portion of the base section 11 and being spaced from the head intermediate section 17. Each of the intermediate sections 17,18 has a main wall 19,20 and a perimeter wall 21,22 and also has air valves 23,24 being conventionally disposed in the perimeter wall 21,22. The perimeter wall 21,22 of each intermediate section 17,18 includes side and end walls 25-28. The side walls 25,26 are tapered away from the end walls 27,28. The intermediate sections 17,18 have air chambers 29,30 being disposed between the main walls 19,20 and perimeter walls 21,22 of the intermediate sections 17,18 and the top wall 12 of the base section 11. Upon the air chamber 29 of the head intermediate section 17 being filled with air, the main wall 19 of the head intermediate section 17 is inclined at approximately 15 degrees relative to the top wall 12 of the base section 11. Also, upon the air chamber 30 of the foot intermediate section 18 being filled with air, the main wall 20 of the foot intermediate section 18 is curved.

Upper sections 31,32 are disposed upon and conventionally connected to the intermediate sections 17,18, and include a head upper section 31 being securely attached upon the head intermediate section 17, and also include a foot upper section 32 being securely attached upon the foot intermediate section 18 and being spaced from the head upper section 31. Each of the upper sections 31,32 has a main wall 33,34 and a perimeter wall 35,36 and also has air valves 37,38 being conventionally disposed in the perimeter wall 35,36. The perimeter walls 35,36 of the upper sections 31,32 include side and end walls 39-42. The side walls 39,40 of the upper sections 31,32 are tapered away from the end walls 41,42. The upper sections 31,32 have air chambers 43,44 being disposed between the main walls 33,34 and the perimeter walls 35,36 of the upper sections 31,32 and the main walls 19,20 of the intermediate section 17,18. Upon the air chambers 41,42 of the upper sections 31,32 being filled with air, the main walls 33,34 of the upper sections 31,32 are angled at approximately 30 degrees relative to the top wall 12 of the base section 11.

In use, the user fills the air chambers 16,29,30,43,44 with air from a conventional air pump with the main wall 19 of the head intermediate section 17 being inclined at an angle of approximately 15 degrees relative to the top wall 12 of the base section 11 and with the main wall 33 of the head upper section 31 being inclined at an angle of approximately 30 degrees relative to the top wall 12 of the base section 11 thus allowing the user to comfortably have one's head elevated relative to the rest of one's body.

As to a further discussion of the manner of usage and operation of the present invention, the same should be apparent from the above description. Accordingly, no further discussion relating to the manner of usage and operation will be provided.

With respect to the above description then, it is to be realized  
that the optimum dimensional relationships for the parts of the  
invention, to include variations in size, materials, shape, form,  
5 function and manner of operation, assembly and use, are deemed  
readily apparent and obvious to one skilled in the art, and all  
equivalent relationships to those illustrated in the drawings and  
described in the specification are intended to be encompassed by  
the present invention.

10

Therefore, the foregoing is considered as illustrative only of  
the principles of the incline-adjustable air mattress. Further, since  
numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those  
skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the  
15 exact construction and operation shown and described, and  
accordingly, all suitable modifications and equivalents may be  
resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention.

20

25

30

35